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World Premier of "The System" at the University of Dayton

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DAYTON, Ohio, June 29, 1971 --- A black message, as interpreted by Dayton playwright, Clarence Young III, will be the theme of the World Premier showing of his black musical, "The System," on Wednesday and Thursday, July 7 and 8, at the University of Dayton's Boll Theater. The four-year-old Theater West, composed of black actors, singers, dancers, illustrators, artists, costume designers and musicians from Dayton area high schools and universities, will give two performances each night at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

The play, the latest in a long selection of works by Mr. Young over the past four years, will, through the medium of words and music, point the finger of sarcasm at the mechanical actions of the bulk of society and its self-destructive ways. Mr. Young has done this through the use of symbolisms which depict the "robotism" of individual persons.

Mr. Young, whose play, "Perry's Mission," is off-Broadway in New York at the moment, has been a motivating force with Theater West over the past four years. His theatrical talents have brought to Dayton audiences, besides his own plays, the works of other black playwrights such as Wole Soyinka of Nigeria, W. Turner Ward, Robert Khai Hill, Arthur Stokes, Walter Williams, Larry Crowe, and Douglas Turner Ward, who is producing Mr. Young's "Perry's Mission" off-Broadway.

The works of these black authors has been brought to the nation's attention through the Black Theater's appearance on the nationally-syndicated University of Michigan television series. This series appears in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago and Detroit among other United States cities.

The group also has appeared before the Honorable Moses F. Debrah, The Ambassador from Ghana; The National Conference of Black Nuns, and the Black Catholics in Action in Detroit. It has also worked with the noted Black dramatist, Dr. J. Scott Kennedy, in "Rivers of the Black Man."

The July 7 and 8 World Premier performances of "The System" are being directed by Garry Pritchett, a University of Dayton drama student. The music is by Delbert C. Taylor, and illustrations and costumes by Larry Crowe.

The program, which is being co-sponsored by the University of Dayton's Union Activities Organization, will cost \$1.50 for regular admission and \$1.00 for students.